# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:389
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2000
HUMAN GENOM
PUTTASWAMY GOWDA;UTTAMRAO NATHUJI DHIKALE

**Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

(a) whether Human Genom has been discovered recently by the Scientists;

(b) whether the Institute of Moleculor Biology had also sent a proposal in this regard some years ago;

(c) if so, the reasons for turning down the proposal by the Government; and

(d) the position where India stands in this fields?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT)

(a) : On 26th June, 2000, a working draft of the human genome sequence has been announced. In this international programme six countries have participated namely USA, UK, Germany, France, China and Japan.

(b), (c) & (d) : Some scientists in the country had given a proposal in 1989-90s to the Government. Thereafter, discussions were held amongst scientists to evolve a strategy for human genome initiative. Accordingly, programmes have been initiated in three major areas viz. Human Genome-an Indian Initiative, Human Genome Diversity and Gene Therapy & Bioethics. Fourteen genetic diagnosis cum counselling units have been established in different regions to provide prenatal diagnosis and counselling to the affected families for common genetic disorders prevalent in the country. Programme on Functional Genomics and Human Genome Diversity are also under implementation with promising research leads. Also, a research proposal on sequencing of human `Y` chromosome has been implemented since 1995 by Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad. A sound infrastructure and expertise has been created in functional genomics and related areas in India.